

# RECs PROMOTE COLLEGE ACCESS

## Upstate REC Hosts College and Career Readiness Presentations

As part of their role to connect citizens with the resources and services they need, South Carolina's 12 Regional Education Centers (RECs) are working to ensure college is accessible to all students and adult learners. Key to increasing accessibility is generating awareness about the many available college and financial aid options as well as providing support for the research and application process that must come first.

During the month of July the **Upstate REC** partnered with the **College Hub** and **Upstate Workforce Investment Board** to offer several College and Career Readiness presentations throughout the region. The presentations were open to the public and designed to help all community members use education to reach their career goals, regardless of where they are along their path. Attended by high school students and parents, recent graduates and adult learners, the presentations focused on such topics as the importance of earning a college degree in today's job market, what to consider when planning for a college degree, and understanding today's in-demand jobs.

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Cherie Pressley,  
Upstate REC Coordinator

According to Cherie Pressley, Upstate REC Coordinator, preparing for college is one of the biggest and most important steps to take toward personal success. "We believe students and adult learners will be more successful in completing their college education if they understand the resources available to assist them and most importantly, what their purpose is for being there," explains Pressley.

Attendees were provided access to various resources including a "Next Step" guide and high school checklist as well as information on financial aid, college admissions and workforce development. Citizens from throughout the region were able to benefit from the events which were held at several locations including the Landrum Library, Middle Tyger Library, Cowpens Library, Boiling Springs Library, Chesnee Library, Spartanburg County Library, Pacolet Library and Westside Library.



Upstate REC Coordinator Cherie Pressley talks with students at one of the region's College and Career Readiness presentations.

For more information on college access and career readiness, please visit [www.scpathways.org](http://www.scpathways.org) and [www.sccango.org](http://www.sccango.org). For more from the Upstate REC, please contact Coordinator Cherie Pressley at 864-503-5370.